

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling communications to an access terminal, comprising:

applying a first treatment to a packet flow and transmitting the first treated packet flow to a first base station for transmission over an air interface to the access terminal; and

applying a second treatment to a duplicate of the packet flow and transmitting the [[second]] treated duplicate packet flow to a second base station for transmission over the air interface to the access terminal during a hand off period in which the access terminal is handing off from the first base station to the second base station, and wherein transmission of the first treated packet flow to the first base station occurs concurrently with transmission of the treated duplicate packet flow to the second base station.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second treatments are maintained in a data structure in a router, wherein the data structure indicates a mapping between the first and second treatments and information in the packet flow, and wherein applying the first treatment to the packet flow comprises selecting the first treatment using information in the packet flow and the data structure.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the data structure is maintained or updated according to commands or instructions from one or more radio network controllers.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the data structure is maintained or updated according to commands or instructions from the access terminal.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein ~~the first treatment is stored according to commands or instructions from a first radio network controller where the first treatment is used for packet flows destined to the first~~ base station radio network controller and ~~the second treatment is stored according to commands or instructions from a second radio network controller where the second treatment is used for packet flows destined to the second~~ base station radio network controller.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the first treatment is removed from the data structure after the completion of the hand off from a first base station radio network controller to a second base station radio network controller.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 where the first treatment remains resident in the data structure after the completion of the hand off from a first base station radio network controller to a second base station radio network controller, so that it remains available for use in the event of a ping pong hand off back to the first base station radio network controller.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 where the first and second treatments comprise at least one of a compression technique, a quality of service specification, a service instance mapping, and a packet data protocol context mapping.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling communications from an access terminal, comprising:

applying a first treatment to a packet flow while attached to a first base station radio network controller;

applying a second treatment to a duplicate packet flow while attached to a second base station radio network controller during a hand off period in which the access terminal is handing off from the first base station to the second base station, and wherein the first treated packet flow is transmitted to the first base station concurrently with transmission of the treated duplicate packet flow to the second base station.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the first and second treatments are maintained in a data structure within the access terminal, wherein the data structure indicates a mapping between the first and second treatments and information in the packet flow, and wherein applying the first treatment to the packet flow comprises selecting the first treatment using information in the packet flow and the data structure.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the data structure is maintained according to commands or instructions from one or more radio network controllers.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the data structure is maintained according to commands or instructions from one or more routers.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein ~~the first treatment is stored according to commands or instructions from a first radio network controller where the first treatment is used for packet flows destined to the first~~ base station radio network controller and

~~the second treatment is stored according to commands or instructions from a second radio network controller where the second treatment is used for packet flows destined to the second base station radio network controller.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the first treatment is removed from the data structure after the completion of the hand off from a first base station radio network controller to a second base station radio network controller.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 where the first treatment remains resident in the data structure after the completion of the hand off from a first base station radio network controller to a second base station radio network controller, so that it remains available for use in the event of a ping pong hand off back to the first base station radio network controller.

16. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the first and second treatments comprise one or more of a compression technique, a quality of service specification, a service instance mapping, or a packet data protocol context mapping.